

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 583

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Hunter Sturgill of Heritage Middle School upon winning the silver medal at the Tallinn Open.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful young athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable athlete is Hunter Sturgill of Heritage Middle School, a young wrestler of extraordinary talent, skill, and athleticism, who recently won the silver medal in the 47-kilometer weight class (103.75 pounds) at an international event in Tallinn, Estonia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sturgill was one of forty-two young athletes chosen from among 400 applicants to represent the United States of America at the prestigious international wrestling event; and

WHEREAS, one of just ten U.S. wrestlers to win an individual medal, Hunter Sturgill won his first six matches at the Tallinn Open against wrestlers from Russia, Germany, Estonia, Belarus, and Sweden before advancing to the championship round where he lost to fellow American Wyatt Duchateau in a close match; and

WHEREAS, Hunter Sturgill began his wrestling career at the encouragement of Jerry Teaster, the wrestling coach at Heritage High School, and honed his athletic talents and wrestling technique under the specialized coaching skills of Junior Hernandez of Knoxville for two years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Sturgill is an eighteen-time All-American, two-time State Champion, and eight-time National Champion and is currently ranked fifth in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sturgill's tremendous success in his first international competition is undoubtedly just the beginning of a highly successful wrestling career at the international level, as he pursues his dream to compete for the United States at the Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Hunter Sturgill epitomizes all that is good in today's student athlete, as he has achieved a high level of success in athletic competition while demonstrating great character both on and off the wrestling mat; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sturgill's extraordinary honor is a source of great pride for his family, his school, and his community, and it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to applaud this elite athlete for his stellar achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Hunter Sturgill of Heritage Middle School upon winning the silver medal at the Tallinn Open in Estonia, extending to him our best wishes for every continued success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.